

February 22, 2007

REMARKS

Summary of Personal Interview with the Examiner

On February 16, 2006, Examiner Satya Sastri and Applicants' representative, Mr. Andrew Merriam, conducted a personal interview to further prosecution in the instant application. During the interview, the parties discussed the propriety of the rejections outstanding on the record in relation to the instant claims for methods of making a composition. The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for extending the courtesy of a personal interview.

Support for the Amendments to the Claims

The amendment adding new claim 11, seeks solely to make the instant claim 4, drawn to methods of making aqueous dispersions, dependent from instant method claim 8, and to thereby avoid any issue of indefiniteness or improper claim dependency. Instant method claim 4 was dependent upon composition claim 1, now canceled. Support for this amendment may be found, for example, in the instant specification at page 2, lines 3-8 and at page 13, lines 12-23.

The applicants have thus canceled eight (8) claims and have re-numbered instant claim 4 as new claim 11. Accordingly, the present amendment at least simplifies issues for appeal and does so without expanding the scope of the instant claims and without adding to the number of pending claims. The amendment is necessary and was not earlier presented because the record had failed to address any improper claim dependency issue for instant claim 4.

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 4 and 11 will stand pending in the instant application. No new matter is added by the present amendment.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-8 and 10 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over JP 60-250072, to Dai Nippon Ink (hereinafter "JP '072"), of record. The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

A01508

After Final Response

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JP '072 fails to disclose any fails to disclose aqueous dispersion or emulsion polymerization or neat (bulk) polymerization to prepare a polymer containing at least one epoxy group. Further, JP '072 fails to disclose reacting in the aqueous dispersion or emulsion the at least one epoxy group on the precursor polymer with at least one co-reactive olefinic material, as instantly recited. See JP '072 at, page 2, lines 28-30, page 8, lines 10-18, page 9, 1st and 2nd paragraphs, Application Examples 1-3, pages 10-11, and Application Examples 4-5, page 13.


JP '072 fails to disclose, teach or suggest all of the features of the instant claims. Accordingly, JP '072 fails to anticipate or render obvious the instant claims.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, the instant claims are believed to be in current condition for allowance. An early and favorable response is earnestly solicited. If the examiner has any questions problems concerning the instant application, she is urged to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

No fees are believed due. In the event that any fees are found owing, please charge deposit account no. 18-1850.

Respectfully, submitted


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